

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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The following is a translation of circular No. 14/53, prepared by the Confederation of Latin American Workers (CTAL), calling upon all members of the CTAL to aid with moral solidarity, the workers of Brasil, on strike for higher salaries and lower prices on food.

TO THE NATIONAL LABOR CENTRALS
AND AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

Dear Companions:

Some days ago we wrote to the National Labor Centrals and Organizations affiliated to the CTAL requesting an intense, moral solidarity with the workers of Sao Paulo, Brazil, who are on strike for better salaries and for a lowering of the prices of foodstuffs.

The textile, metallurgical, construction, glass, and lumber workers, as well as the mechanics, have been struggling for more than 25 days against management and government leaders, who passed from demagogic promises to brutal and bloody violence against the workers, including women and children.

Close to 300,000 workers are struggling to obtain better living and working conditions.

The strike movement is extending to various municipalities in the state of Sao Paulo.

The government of Lucas NOGUEIRA Garces has not pacifically mobilized its resources to solve the struggle nor does it recognize the justice of

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the petitions made by the workers.

To the contrary, the armed forces have been mobilized, and the maritime port of Santos has been occupied by military forces. Dozens of male and female workers have been arrested, beaten and wounded, even gravely.

It is important to know that prices in Brazil increased by nearly 600% from 1940 to 1952, and even in the two years of government of Getulio VARGAS prices have increased as follows:

Green meat	10.60
Pork	6.00
Rice	1.30
Beans	2.30
Shortening	2.00
Sugar	1.30
Butter	10.00
Coffee	2.40
Meal	2.50
Matches	0.10
Eggs	4.00
Spaghetti	0.30
Milk	0.30
Condensed milk	1.10

Monetary inflation and the so-called rotative bonds rapidly depreciate salaries. In practice, salaries of late have been frozen, depreciated, and lowered. Today, with an apparently higher salary, much less can be purchased.

On the other hand, management, under the protection of the government, has obtained fabulous profits at the expense of the misery and hunger of the great mass of the workers and of their families. We can prove this with the following data:

	<u>CAPITAL</u>	<u>EARNINGS</u>
I.R.F.M. (Matarazzo)	750,000,000.00	473,842,000.00
SAMS Industrias Gerais	432,000,000.00	95,794,000.00
Ford Motor Co. Export	100,000,000.00	285,666,000.00
Nestle	75,000,000.00	28,662,000.00
Cotonificio G. Giorgi, SA	75,000,000.00	23,739,000.00
Lanificio Kovarich, SA	60,000,000.00	11,063,000.00
Frigorifico Armour, SA	55,000,000.00	23,013,000.00

Companions, the struggle of the heroid workers of Sao Paulo continue and are extending to other branches of production and to other municipalities.

The CTAL again addresses you and again requests that you do everything possible to send our dear Brazilian brothers all possible moral and material aid.

Telegrams, letters, and lists of signatures of workers protesting against this violence should be sent to His Excellency Getulio VARGAS, President of the United States of Brazil, Palacio Catete, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and to His Excellency Lucas NOGUEIRA Garces, Governor of the State of Sao Paulo, Palacio de los Campos Eliseos, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Meanwhile, committees should be organized to visit the Embassies of Brazil in the various countries and to present written as well as verbal protests.

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The union and democratic newspapers, pamphlets, hand-made signs, mural propaganda etc. are forms which, when used, could greatly aid our companions of Brazil, who are struggling for better economic and social conditions.

Correspondence showing solidarity and economic contributions for the struggling Brazilian workers should be sent to the following addresses:

Confederacion de Trabajadores del Brazil
Caixa Postal numero 1175
Rio de Janeiro, D.F., Brazil

Union General de Trabajadores del Estado de Sao Paulo
Rua Manoel Victorino numero 151, Sala 2
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Sindicato de Trabajadores de las Industrias
Metalurgicas, Mecanicas y de Material Electrico
Rua Rischmelo 275
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Sindicato de Trabajadores de las Industrias
de la Construccion de la Madera
Praça da Se 97,20
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Industria de
Fiacao de Tecelagem
Rua Otapoque numero 86
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Sindicato de Trabajadores Construcción
Civil de Sao Paulo
Rua Conde Sarzedas, 304
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Industria de Vidrios
y Cristales del Estado de Sao Paulo
Rua Anacleto 70
Sao Paulo, Brazil.

We hope that you will give our Brazilian companions the solidarity we are requesting. We take advantage of this opportunity to send you our fraternal greetings.

! FOR THE EMANCIPATION OF LATIN AMERICA!
Mexico, D.F., 16 April 1953

Signed by Vicente LOMBARDO Toledano
President, C.T.A.L. and
Antonio GARCIA Moreno, Jose MORERA, and
Lourival VILLAR, Secretaries.

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